

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6344

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: QIOR,SYINHUN KS, JA

SUBJ KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE

REF SEOUL 6 20

1. CHIEF OF INVESTIGATING TEAM FOR KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE, PROSECUTOR CHONG MYUNG-NAE, TOLD REPORTERS SEPTEMBER 18 THAT INVESTIGATION THUS FAR HAS PRODUCED NO CLUES AS TO IDENTITY OF KIDNAPPERS OR ROUTE THEY FOLLOWED. CHONG ADDED THAT KIM TAE-CHUNG, YANG IL-DONG AND KIM KYONG-IN HAD ALL STATED THAT KIM TONG-UN DID NOT RESEMBLE ANY OF THE KIDNAPPERS.

2. FORMER JAPANESE AMBASSADOR KANAYAMA IN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH TONGA ILBO SEPTEMBER 18 EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT AFTER FACTS ARE UNCOVERED CASE CAN BE SETTLED "POLITICALLY AND DIPLOMATICALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL PRECEDENTS" SO AS TO AVOID ANY DAMAGE TO RELATIONS BETWEEN KOREA AND JAPAN. KANAYAMA REPORTEDLY SAID IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR INVESTIGATORS FROM KOREA AND JAPAN TO VISIT EACH

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OTHER'S COUNTRY FOR ON-THE-SPOT INVESTIGATIONS. KANAYAMA SAID THAT IF GIVEN THE CHANCE TO MEET PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG-PIL HE INTENDED TO MAKE

THIS RECOMMENDATION.

3. JUSTICE MINISTER SHIN CHIK-SU IN
CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR HABIB SEPTEMBER 18
DENIED HAVING GIVEN ANY INDICATION THAT OUTLINES OF
THE CASE WERE NEARLY ESTABLISHED OR SAYING THAT KIM
TAE-CHUNG HAD EXONERATED KIM TONG-UN. HE SAID THAT
HIS COMMENTS TO OPPOSITION DELEGATION HAD BEEN
MISQUOTED (REFTEL). SHIN SAID HE ONLY TOLD THEM
THAT INVESTIGATION WAS
CONTINUING. HE OFFERED
NO HINT AS TO WHEN INVESTIGATION
WOULD BE COMPLETED, BUT SAID HE WOULD BE MAKING A
REPORT TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN NEAR FUTURE.
HABIB

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